



Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

MAINE POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

This Society held its winter exhibition of fruits at Agricultural Hall, in the State House, on Thursday of last week, agreeably to notice given. It was well attended, considering the bad travelling, and the specimens exhibited were very good indeed; but, owing to the small crop of the last season, there were not so many varieties brought forward as usual.

These exhibitions are both pleasant and useful. They bring the fruit growers together; they become acquainted with each other; exchange ideas; discuss the subject of fruit-culture, and thus impart useful and practical knowledge to each other. A discussion sprung up which involved the question of root-grafting apple trees, from the western New York nurseries. It appeared from facts brought forward, that there were both good and poor trees propagated in that section of the State; and that, while some of the good people of Maine had been outrageously swindled in the sale of poor trees to them, some had found good trees with which they were well satisfied.

It will be seen that Mr. Glazier, of Hallowell, and Lancaster, of Farmington, received premiums for the largest variety of fruits exhibited. The specimens presented by them were very fine. We commend the excellent report of the committee to the careful perusal and consideration of our readers.

We heartily concur in all the sentiments advanced by the committee, except those in relation to the cultivation of the Isabella grape. We should be loth to have its cultivation given up in Maine. True, it does not always ripen with us, and perhaps never comes up in richness of flavor to the Isabella raised farther South. But it has been the pioneer grape here. It has been useful—it will be useful hereafter, in many parts of the State, even if it should not be cultivated under glass. We hope and trust that some of the new varieties will prove earlier and better; but until the fact that they are so is indisputably so, it would be unwise to relinquish the Isabella.

AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

The friends of agriculture met in the Agricultural Room in the State House on Monday evening the 26th inst. The subject for discussion, "Fertilizers—their preservation, preparation and application."

Mr. Buxton, in response to a call upon him to give his experience and knowledge in relation to the value of manure, said that in his vicinity there were various and different opinions relative to this kind of dressing; but a large majority considered it valuable as a top-dressing—capital well laid out when expended in obtaining it, and there are hundreds if not thousands of loads taken from our manure-beds, when circumstances for getting to it are favorable.

There are a few among us who say they would not have it on their lands if it could be hauled for nothing.

I have myself seen some very marked beneficial effects from the application of the manure-mud, and in some two or three instances I am informed by the owners of the land that their land has been ruined by the application of the manure-mud. Question. What kind of soil is best adapted for the application of the mud? Ans. Clayey soils when applied as a top dressing.

Question. What kind of soil is that which has become so run out? Ans. More of a sandy than a clayey soil.

Question. What is the average amount of hay taken from the ground on which the manure mud acts favorably? Ans. From 2 to 2½ tons per acre.

In one instance I am assured by those who cut the grass from a certain portion of the piece, and weighed it after being well cured, that the average per acre would be equal to seven tons.

Question. What kind of grass was it? Ans. Principally herds grass, with a slight mixture of red top, very tall and very large stalks.

Question. Has the run out land been ploughed and cultivated to any crop lately? Ans. Some of it has.

Question. Do you think it cannot be reclaimed? Ans. The owner of some of it says that it cannot be—it settles together after being ploughed, so hard that in a time of drought it "bakes" and cracks open.

Question. How deep has it been ploughed? Ans. About 8 inches, I think.

Question. When is the most favorable time to get the mud? Ans. When the salt water ice is strong enough for teams to pass over it to the manure beds which lie from half to two and a half miles from the main land. There are many cords of it brought to our wharves in gunboats, but this way of obtaining it is much more expensive than in taking it direct from the beds with our teams.

Mr. Forbes spoke of the preservation of stable manures. His own practice is to throw the droppings of animals with their bedding into a shed erected for that purpose. When it begins to heave he scatters Plaster of Paris over it, to absorb the ammonia that may be evolved, and in looking about our premises opportunity offered for him to mention the inconvenience he was subject to, when he first owned and occupied the farm he now resides upon.

My friend bought of a wealthy farmer who had his thousands at interest, but submitted for many years at a loss to himself, and the great suffering of his farm stock, to drive a long distance to water, rather than use a little of his interest money, to convey this important element of life and health to every desirable point for the accommodation of his family and stock.

Now mark the difference in the owners of this farm. My young friend, weak in money capital, and bone and muscle, though strong in enterprise and intellectual power, (more of a scholar than a field laborer,) determined at once to submit no longer, if possible, to avoid it, to the in-

PREVENTIVE OF POTATO ROT.

Mr. Editor:—I wish you to publish the following which has proved a preventive of the potato rot in two successive trials for two successive years, which I have from good authority. The trial costs little. When the rust which always precedes the rot is first discovered upon the leaves, cut the tops even with the ground, and cover the stump, immediately lightly with dirt. The roots continue to grow the usual time, ripen well, and are free from rot. If the stumps are not covered, the rot ceases growing, but when covered the top will grow anew up through the covering of the stalk, and be green when cut. Potatoes treated in this way have escaped the rot, and grown full size, while others, in rows by their side, not cut, have nearly all rotted.

Dear Sir, December, 1856.

For the Maine Farmer.

CARE OF STOCK.

Warm Barns and In-door feeding for Stock, with water in their racks, compared with the opposite.

When I commenced farming, my barns were ready built, and almost as open in the walls as a corn crib. The first fall we went about battening within, and patching, and plastering within, until they were as comfortable as those loose tenements could well be made. But not until within a very few years have we had the pleasure of seeing all our stock comfortably lodged within tight walls.

The walls of barns and stables should be as close and impenetrable to wind and storm as the outside covering of a good dwelling house, with ventilator in the centre of the roof, and a plenty of glass windows to let in the light, and in warm weather to open and purify the air by the ventilator.

Between cold, or warm and well ventilated buildings for our stock in winter, the difference in point of profit to the animals is, to my mind, too clear and self-evident, to need any comparison or opinion of mine to prove which is most economical and humane.

For years we were in the practice of letting our cattle out in the yards more than half the day, (always, however, tying up about two hours at noon, and in stormy weather,) and feeding out coarse fodder before and after noon. This course was found to be wasteful both of feed and manure, and worse than both the suffering of the animals by cold and lack of comfortable place to lie down.

For twenty years or more all our stock has been fed under cover, at a saving of at least 50 per cent. on fodder, and the waste of straw for manure, and the excrement dropped in the yard. The orts left in the cribs and mangers are used for bedding and to soak up the urine, and thence into the dung heap under cover, (I trust every good farmer has, or will have before another winter, a covering over his dung heaps,) there to remain until spring, to be manufactured into compost, or plowed into the soil.

After sunrise, our cattle are let out in their yard for drink and exercise, for half an hour to an hour and a half, according to the weather, and again before sunset. Late winter and spring, the days being longer, and warm, they go out a short time at noon.

The method pursued by many farmers is to turn out their cattle before sunrise, and let them remain out all day, in the cold or storm. Coarse fodder is thrown about their yard two or three times a day, which helps as much by way of exercise to warm them, as the nutriment obtained from it, and in my opinion is not equivalent to the loss of fat consumed to keep up waste of the animal heat, whilst thus exposed to cold and want of rest. I would very much rather ours should go without a dinner, than be thus exposed to the cold through the day.

Water in the yard (ours is under a shed open to the South,) we think is indispensable to the profitable keeping of all kinds of farm stock. The loss by drinking 10, 20, or in some cases 100 rods or more, to water, through drifting snows and storms, where cattle will not go without "compulsory process," more than once in 24 hours, and then fill themselves out like a balloon to the great injury of health, the danger of the stronger animals injuring the weaker in the deep snow, or on the ice, with the waste of manure dropped on the way, and loss of time and other incidental expense and inconvenience to the owner, make up so strong a case against his interest and the cause of humanity, that we hope he will look about his premises, and, if practicable, provide convenient watering places.

True it is, that in a few locations it is difficult to procure durable water, either from spring or well at a reasonable expense, and the owner is obliged to submit to inconvenience and loss that he would willingly avoid. But I am certain that many farmers with ample means, who might at a moderate expense bring water to all desirable points about their buildings, neglect to do it, because their fathers got along without, or from a "penny wise and pound foolish" system of economy.

In conclusion we will mention a case in point to our cold water question, desiring if possible to awaken one or more young farmers, to "go and do likewise." A few months since we had the pleasure at our home of making the acquaintance of an interesting young farmer, from the southern part of Franklin County, (I should like to bring out his name but do not feel quite at liberty to do so without his permission.) In looking about our premises opportunity offered for him to mention the inconvenience he was subject to, when he first owned and occupied the farm he now resides upon.

My friend bought of a wealthy farmer who had his thousands at interest, but submitted for many years at a loss to himself, and the great suffering of his farm stock, to drive a long distance to water, rather than use a little of his interest money, to convey this important element of life and health to every desirable point for the accommodation of his family and stock.

Now mark the difference in the owners of this farm. My young friend, weak in money capital, and bone and muscle, though strong in enterprise and intellectual power, (more of a scholar than a field laborer,) determined at once to submit no longer, if possible, to avoid it, to the in-

convenience and waste, in this particular of orchards beyond the ratio of other improvements, and that of population, when their chance for a full crop is only one in two or three years. With us is not the chance greater? In the northern counties, in some localities, we are allowed to say, the apple crop never fails. But for the past few years, in some localities, more specimens would now be before us, and some from orchards that have produced fair specimens of choice varieties for an unbroken series of about forty years. Other portions of the State are not entirely exempt from casual blights, and occasional failures, through natural causes.

The past season, with a very general complaint of a scanty apple crop, the dealers in Boston have penetrated to the back settlements of Maine, there finding fair choice apples in considerable quantities, which they have bought at round prices, and transported over long roads to the cars and steamers.

The greater scarcity of successive good crops in our locality, over portions of our country warmed by earlier and more fertile spring, is a matter that is being well established and very generally understood.

Our apples compare favorably with those produced in warmer latitudes. At Rochester, N. Y., in September last, was probably collected a greater number of varieties than was ever before exhibited on this continent, or in the world. We may be safe in assuming that the eye of man never before took in at one view, so rich a display of fruits. Nearly every State of the Union, not forgetting the State and Territories washed by the Pacific, was there represented. Very unassumingly, in that monster assemblage, were laid some fifteen varieties of apples from the highlands of northern Maine, hardly noticeable there, but from the circumstance that none others could claim origin or growth from so high a latitude. Curiosity at once prompted us to seek out and institute a comparison between our humble contribution, and something from the South. We found for our purpose, a collection of about thirty varieties from North Carolina. In justice to that collection, produced and presented by one gentleman, we must say that, for size, beauty, flavor, and exquisite aroma, it surpassed everything we had ever seen.

After indulging in entire freedom, in the only real pleasurable test of goodness in fruit, we were ready to yield the palm to the highly prized southern apples. But, for the reputation of Maine—a spot of earth laid out in the cold, a good place to cultivate from—the veteran pomologists of our country, and of the age, came to the rescue, and pronounced our northern apples finer in grain, firmer in texture, richer in substance, the elements of goodness more concentrated, a fruit equally mature, and more desirable, than that grown at the south.

Our Wilder, our Hoveys, Barrys, Berckmans, Brinckles, Thomases and Downings, place on her brow a crown that no earthly power can wrest from her.

The character of our apples for their fine keeping qualities having been established—the surety of production when our trees are once set and grown—an ever ready market through all future time so certainly opened, that all the hill-sides in Maine, in one consolidated orchard producing to its maximum, might in vain strive to glut, and what remains to be said in the direction of accelerated, continuous, energetic effort to increased production.

The character of our apples is established generally on examination of specimens grown on trees that have been stuck out, and thereafter let alone. Were we to question the exhibitors of fruit on any occasion, not excepting the present, we should learn that in most cases apples are grown on trees that are treated with just the opposite of what all admit as good care and culture when applied to the other crops of the farm.

The difference in quantity and quality of apples produced on trees well cared for, and those let alone, is not generally appreciated, for the contrast is rarely drawn.

Other inducements and incentives for greatly increased production of fruit, such as physiological and moral considerations, would be set before you with pleasure on this occasion, but your committee, called to duty on short notice, are not prepared to treat the subject as it deserves, or in a manner satisfactory to themselves or you. Neither can they extend remarks beyond apples. Other fruits are not to be overlooked, neglected or forgotten on this annual occasion, nor at any other time or season.

We adjure the farmers and horticulturists—all land-holders in Maine—to consider well the critical times on which we have fallen. The vigor and strength, the very life-blood of the State, is oozing out at every pore, in the ceaseless stream of emigration in whose current our sons and daughters are mingling.

Inquire as often and as much as you please of your Legislature, "the cause that operate against the more rapid settlement of our public lands;" tax your wits for ways and means as you may, our conviction is, that all the barriers you can raise to emigration will fail to be so effective as the means within your reach to foster "the love of home," that is so happily implanted within us.

Plant your landed estates with orchards, with the view to their division and sub-division—beautify and enrich your homes of opulence, or more humble pretensions, by planting trees.

Multiply the attractions of existing abodes, by surrounding them with greatly increased means of support.

The temptations abroad that allure men and lead them captive, through their love of gain, are to be met, in the rural districts, only by improved appliances to culture, under the light of science, resulting in vastly increased production.

We submit to you for your consideration, the culture of fruit in connection with these momentous considerations, trusting the subject commends itself to your judgment, as a matter of prime and vital moment.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CALVIN CHAMBERLAIN, HENRY LITTLE, JOHN SCAMMON, W. H. PARSONS, J. W. BRITTON, Committee.

MAINE STATE AG. SOCIETY. TUESDAY, JAN. 27. In the afternoon the Society met according to adjournment. Mr. Bretton (Vice President) in the chair.

On motion of Mr. Forbes, voted, that a committee of three be appointed to receive, sort and count the votes for officers, and Messrs. Forbes of Paris, Little of Bangor, and Fuller of St. Albans were appointed.

The committee after receiving the ballots, reported the following persons elected as officers of the Society for the ensuing year, viz:—President—Samuel F. Perley, Naples. Secretary—E. Holmes, Winthrop.

Treasurer—Wm. Caldwell, Augusta. Trustees—T. S. Lang, N. Vassalboro', Daniel Lancaster, Farmington, Seth Scammon, Saco, F. T. Purinton, Topsham, Job Prince, Turner.

On motion of Mr. Forbes, of Paris, voted, to hear the report of the Treasurer.

Mr. Caldwell then made the following report, which was accepted.

Agreeably to the law, I present my second Annual Report of the financial transactions of the Maine State Agricultural Society for the last year. The balance on hand in 1855, was \$939 80. Amount received in 1856, 9,336 16. Total, \$10,275 96. The disbursement amounted to, 7,951 69. Leaving a balance in the Treasury, Dec. 31, 1856, of \$2,324 27.

There was received from all sources at the late Fair and Show in Portland, the sum of \$8,935, 16, and the expenses attending the same, so far as the bills have been audited and paid, amount to \$5,536, 07, and there are a few outstanding bills which I have been unable to obtain, amounting to about \$250.

The premiums awarded, so far as the committees have reported, amount to the sum of \$2, 159 12, and there is due and uncalled for of premiums awarded in 1855 and 1856, about \$500. There were also about 150 diplomas awarded for various articles exhibited.

The first annual payment of \$1,000, granted by the State, provided the Society raise an equal sum, for five years from 1856, to be paid in premiums for the encouragement of the various departments of Agriculture, etc., has been received. Of the sum of \$500 granted by the State in 1855, for the encouragement of the raising of fish in this State, only \$10 have been paid out, leaving \$490 unexpended, which sum is included in the \$2,324 27 balance in the treasury.

I would recommend that under the direction of the Trustees, a portion of the funds now on hand, say \$2000, be invested in State or Bank stocks.

I herewith exhibit a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures.

All of which is respectfully submitted, Wm. CALDWELL, Treasr.

It was then voted to hear the report of the Trustees. Mr. Lang read the following report which was then referred to a committee of three, consisting of Messrs. Lancaster of Farmington, Buxton of Yarmouth, Fairbanks of Augusta.

Trustees' Report. The Trustees of the Maine State Ag. Society for the year ending Jan. 1st, 1857, submit the following report:

It is within the knowledge of all who are familiar with the business concerns of the Society, that the active duties of the present Board of Trustees did not commence until the latter part of June; the performance of certain duties which will devolve upon the Trustees in future having been provided for by the late Executive Committee. About the middle of June, the Trustees received notice from the Secretary of the Society, that the Committee having that matter in charge had decided that the Show and Fair for the season should be held at Waterville.

A meeting of the Trustees was at once called at that place, for the purpose of making definite arrangements for the exhibition. On consultation with the Trustees of the North Kennebec Society, upon whose grounds it was proposed to hold the Fair, and from whom the proposition to the State Society was considered of doubtful expediency to attempt to hold the Show at that place. Having heard the desire very generally expressed, that the exhibition of the State Society should be held in Portland the current year, the Trustees adjourned this meeting to that place; and having received a favorable proposition from some of the leading business men there, it was decided to change the location of the Show and Fair to the City of Portland.

Of the success of the exhibition as an exhibition, the multitude there present as spectators, with leisure to examine, are better judges than the Trustees. Of its success financially we can only say, the year was commenced, as shown by the report of the Treasurer, with an empty treasury—it closes with \$2,923 27, as a fund in store for the future. The Trustees with pleasure acknowledge the efficient aid rendered the Society by the citizens of Portland, in subscribing to a contingent fund; and especially would they acknowledge their obligations to the officers and members of the Board of Trade, the Mechanics' Association, the Mercantile Library Association, and the City Committee of Arrangements, for their assistance in money, time, labor and counsel, in preparing the grounds and halls, and in conducting the Show.

The Society is yet in its infancy, and it would have been strange indeed, if at the outset, the best methods of managing its concerns had been devised and acted upon. Each succeeding year will doubtless suggest improvements, and the experience of the one just closed is not wanting in its lessons of instruction for the future. The Trustees take the present occasion to offer some suggestions for the consideration of the Society, relative to the future management.

ASSIGNMENT TO THE COMMISSIONERS. Having the general supervision of the affairs of the Society, contracting all bills and auditing the same, it would facilitate the labors of the Trustees, by amending Sec. 5 of the Constitution, so that the Treasurer shall be authorized to disburse the money of the Society on the order of the Trustees, without the signature of the President and Secretary. The Trustees should be required to

MAINE STATE AG. SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27.

In the afternoon the Society met according to adjournment. Mr. Bretton (Vice President) in the chair.

On motion of Mr. Forbes, voted, that a committee of three be appointed to receive, sort and count the votes for officers, and Messrs. Forbes of Paris, Little of Bangor, and Fuller of St. Albans were appointed.

The committee after receiving the ballots, reported the following persons elected as officers of the Society for the ensuing year, viz:—President—Samuel F. Perley, Naples. Secretary—E. Holmes, Winthrop.

Treasurer—Wm. Caldwell, Augusta. Trustees—T. S. Lang, N. Vassalboro', Daniel Lancaster, Farmington, Seth Scammon, Saco, F. T. Purinton, Topsham, Job Prince, Turner.

On motion of Mr. Forbes, of Paris, voted, to hear the report of the Treasurer.

Mr. Caldwell then made the following report, which was accepted.

Agreeably to the law, I present my second Annual Report of the financial transactions of the Maine State Agricultural Society for the last year.

The balance on hand in 1855, was \$939 80. Amount received in 1856, 9,336 16. Total, \$10,275 96. The disbursement amounted to, 7,951 69. Leaving a balance in the Treasury, Dec. 31, 1856, of \$2,324 27.

There was received from all sources at the late Fair and Show in Portland, the sum of \$8,935, 16, and the expenses attending the same, so far as the bills have been audited and paid, amount to \$5,536, 07, and there are a few outstanding bills which I have been unable to obtain, amounting to about \$250.

The premiums awarded, so far as the committees have reported, amount to the sum of \$2, 159 12, and there is due and uncalled for of premiums awarded in 1855 and 1856, about \$500. There were also about 150 diplomas awarded for various articles exhibited.

The first annual payment of \$1,000, granted by the State, provided the Society raise an equal sum, for five years from 1856, to be paid in premiums for the encouragement of the various departments of Agriculture, etc., has been received. Of the sum of \$500 granted by the State in 1855, for the encouragement of the raising of fish in this State, only \$10 have been paid out, leaving \$490 unexpended, which sum is included in the \$2,324 27 balance in the treasury.

I would recommend that under the direction of the Trustees, a portion of the funds now on hand, say \$2000, be invested in State or Bank stocks.

I herewith exhibit a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures.

All of which is respectfully submitted, Wm. CALDWELL, Treasr.

It was then voted to hear the report of the Trustees. Mr. Lang read the following report which was then referred to a committee of three, consisting of Messrs. Lancaster of Farmington, Buxton of Yarmouth, Fairbanks of Augusta.

Trustees' Report. The Trustees of the Maine State Ag. Society for the year ending Jan. 1st, 1857, submit the following report:

It is within the knowledge of all who are familiar with the business concerns of the Society, that the active duties of the present Board of Trustees did not commence until the latter part of June; the performance of certain duties which will devolve upon the Trustees in future having been provided for by the late Executive Committee. About the middle of June, the Trustees received notice from the Secretary of the Society, that the Committee having that matter in charge had decided that the Show and Fair for the season should be held at Waterville.

A meeting of the Trustees was at once called at that place, for the purpose of making definite arrangements for the exhibition. On consultation with the Trustees of the North Kennebec Society, upon whose grounds it was proposed to hold the Fair, and from whom the proposition to the State Society was considered of doubtful expediency to attempt to hold the Show at that place. Having heard the desire very generally expressed, that the exhibition of the State Society should be held in Portland the current year, the Trustees adjourned this meeting to that place; and having received a favorable proposition from some of the leading business men there, it was decided to change the location of the Show and Fair to the City of Portland.

Of the success of the exhibition as an exhibition, the multitude there present as spectators, with leisure to examine, are better judges than the Trustees. Of its success financially we can only say, the year was commenced, as shown by the report of the Treasurer, with an empty treasury—it closes with \$2,923 27, as a fund in store for the future. The Trustees with pleasure acknowledge the efficient aid rendered the Society by the citizens of Portland, in subscribing to a contingent fund; and especially would they acknowledge their obligations to the officers and members of the Board of Trade, the Mechanics' Association, the Mercantile Library Association, and the City Committee of Arrangements, for their assistance in money, time, labor and counsel, in preparing the grounds and halls, and in conducting the Show.

The Society is yet in its infancy, and it would have been strange indeed, if at the outset, the best methods of managing its concerns had been devised and acted upon. Each succeeding year will doubtless suggest improvements, and the experience of the one just closed is not wanting in its lessons of instruction for the future. The Trustees take the present occasion to offer some suggestions for the consideration of the Society, relative to the future management.

ASSIGNMENT TO THE COMMISSIONERS. Having the general supervision of the affairs of the Society, contracting all bills and auditing the same, it would facilitate the labors of the Trustees, by amending Sec. 5 of the Constitution, so that the Treasurer shall be authorized to disburse the money of the Society on the order of the Trustees, without the signature of the President and Secretary. The Trustees should be required to

procure and keep an order-book, with marginal records, so that it may readily appear for what purposes the funds of the Society have been paid.

Art. 2. Of the Rules and Regulations. Considerable loss accrued to the funds of the Society, and no little confusion in the Halls, requiring an extra amount of police force, from the abuse of membership tickets. It is suggested that hereafter, no annual membership tickets be issued; that the tickets, as checks, be of uniform appearance and price; that members be furnished with a certain number of tickets, to be specified by the Trustees, in consideration of their having united with the Society; and that all persons on entering the grounds, or halls of the Society, during the hours of exhibition, be required to deliver their tickets to the door-keeper.

Art. 3. Much confusion and delay is occasioned by the neglect of contributors to enter their articles in proper season. It is recommended that hereafter, the provisions of Art. 3, of the general Rules and Regulations, be strictly adhered to, and that premiums be withheld from all those articles or animals not entered according to the rules; but a gratuity of less amount than the premiums offered, may be awarded on such articles or animals as would have been entitled to a premium if entered in due form.

During the past year, following the example of Societies of high standing and of more experience than ourselves, and for the purpose of increasing our receipts, comparatively high premiums have been offered on horses—excellent only in speed. The expediency of continuing to offer such premiums on speed, alone, may be considered doubtful; for, while thus replenishing our Treasury, we may alienate from the Society the good will of some of our best citizens. The subject is worthy the careful consideration of the Society.

The railroad companies in the State, with few exceptions, generously reduced their rates during the week of the exhibition, affording every facility to exhibitors and visitors that could be reasonably asked, and are deserving the thanks of all interested in the welfare of the Society; but we believe if the railroads understood their true interest, they would transfer articles for the exhibition free of charge, and by so doing secure the good will of the public, and double the amount of travel on these occasions.

SAM'L F. PERLEY, Per Order. On motion of Mr. Parlin of Winthrop, voted, to add the following persons to the committee raised at the last meeting, (in October) to confer with the Superintendents of the several Railroads in Maine, viz: Mr. Forbes of Paris, and Mr. H. N. Hunt of Readfield, so that the committee now consists of Jedediah Jewett of Portland, John D. Lang of N. Vassalboro', Seth Scammon of Saco, D. Forbes of S. Paris, and H. N. Hunt of Readfield.

The Secretary then laid upon the table copies of the Patent Office Reports for 1855 on Agriculture, for 1854 on Mechanics, also Packages of seed of the Chinese sugar cane, presented to the Society by the Commissioner of Patents.

On motion of Mr. Forbes, voted, the books be reserved and offered as premiums, and that the cane seed should be distributed to the several County Societies, under the direction of the Trustees.

(N.B. This seed has been handed over in small lots to the several members of the Board of Agriculture for their respective Societies.)

On motion of Mr. Foster of Gardiner, voted, that the trustees be instructed to offer liberal premiums for the manufacture of drain tile in this State.

On motion of Mr. Goodale of Saco, voted, that the Trustees be directed to offer a liberal premium for the best essay on farm accounts.

The committee to whom the report of the Trustees was referred reported sundry amendments of the constitution, a part of which were adopted.

Voted, that the thanks of this Society be presented to Samuel Butman, Esq., for the impartiality and urbanity with which he has presided over it for the two last years, and for the interest he has manifested for its prosperity and welfare.

On motion of Mr. Foster, voted, that the Trustees be instructed to make discrimination in their offers of premiums on stock, in favor of the grower of it. Adjourned.

E. HOLMES, Secretary.

procure and keep an order-book, with marginal records, so that it may readily appear for what purposes the funds of the Society have been paid.

Art. 2. Of the Rules and Regulations.

Considerable loss accrued to the funds of the Society, and no little confusion in the Halls, requiring an extra amount of police force, from the abuse of membership tickets. It is suggested that hereafter, no annual membership tickets be issued; that the tickets, as checks, be of uniform appearance and price; that members be furnished with a certain number of tickets, to be specified by the Trustees, in consideration of their having united with the Society; and that all persons on entering the grounds, or halls of the Society, during the hours of exhibition, be required to deliver their tickets to the door-keeper.

Art. 3. Much confusion and delay is occasioned by the neglect of contributors to enter their articles in proper season. It is recommended that hereafter, the provisions of Art. 3, of the general Rules and Regulations, be strictly adhered to, and that premiums be withheld from all those articles or animals not entered according to the rules; but a gratuity of less amount than the premiums offered, may be awarded on such articles or animals as would have been entitled to a premium if entered in due form.

During the past year, following the example of Societies of high standing and of more experience than ourselves, and for the purpose of increasing our receipts, comparatively high premiums have been offered on horses—excellent only in speed. The expediency of continuing to offer such premiums on speed, alone, may be considered doubtful; for, while thus replenishing our Treasury, we may alienate from the Society the good will of some of our best citizens. The subject is worthy the careful consideration of the Society.

The railroad companies in the State, with few exceptions, generously reduced their rates during the week of the exhibition, affording every facility to exhibitors and visitors that could be reasonably asked, and are deserving the thanks of all interested in the welfare of the Society; but we believe if the railroads understood their true interest, they would transfer articles for the exhibition free of charge, and by so doing secure the good will of the public, and double the amount of travel on these occasions.

SAM'L F. PERLEY, Per Order. On motion of Mr. Parlin of Winthrop, voted, to add the following persons to the committee raised at the last meeting, (in October) to confer with the Superintendents of the several Railroads in Maine, viz: Mr. Forbes of Paris, and Mr. H. N. Hunt of Readfield, so that the committee now consists of Jedediah Jewett of Portland, John D. Lang of N. Vassalboro', Seth Scammon of Saco, D. Forbes of S. Paris, and H. N. Hunt of Readfield.

The Secretary then laid upon the table copies of the Patent Office Reports for 1855 on Agriculture, for 1854 on Mechanics, also Packages of seed of the Chinese sugar cane, presented to the Society by the Commissioner of Patents.

On motion of Mr. Forbes, voted, the books be reserved and offered as premiums, and that the cane seed should be distributed to the several County Societies, under the direction of the Trustees.

(N.B. This seed has been handed over in small lots to the several members of the Board of Agriculture for their respective Societies.)

